

HOUSE BILL 982

F1, F2, P6

(3lr1844)

ENROLLED BILL

— Appropriations/ Education, Energy, and the Environment and Budget and Taxation —

Introduced by **The Speaker**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this _____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

Speaker.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Employees – Programs and Scholarships for Human Services Careers and**
3 **Probation Agents and State Contributions to Supplemental Retirement Plans**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Pilot Program for Human Services Careers to
5 encourage collaboration between the Department of Human Services and certain
6 local school systems to assist students in establishing careers in certain positions in
7 the Department of Human Services located in certain counties; requiring the
8 Department of Human Services and certain local school systems to take certain
9 actions regarding the Pilot Program; altering the eligibility criteria for the Maryland
10 Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Police Officers and the Maryland Police
11 Officers Scholarship Program to include probation agents who work for the
12 Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services; altering the names of and
13 the annual appropriations to the Repayment Program and the Scholarship Program;
14 establishing the Pilot Program for Human Services Careers Scholarship to provide

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



1 tuition assistance to students pursuing a credential or degree that is necessary to
2 work in or further a career in certain positions in the Department of Human Services
3 located in certain counties; requiring the State to make certain employer
4 contributions for State employees participating in certain supplemental retirement
5 plans under certain circumstances; requiring the Maryland Higher Education
6 Commission to make certain scholarship awards in fiscal year 2024; and generally
7 relating to the establishment of programs and scholarships for human services
8 careers and probation agents employed by the State, and State contributions to the
9 supplemental retirement plans of State employees.

10 BY adding to

11 Article – Human Services
12 Section 2–303
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

15 BY adding to

16 Article – Education
17 Section 7–132; and 18–3901 through 18–3904 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle
18 39. Pilot Program for Human Services Careers Scholarship”
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2022 Replacement Volume)

21 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

22 Article – Education
23 Section 18–3701, 18–3702, and 18–3704 to be under the amended subtitle “Subtitle
24 37. Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Police Officers and
25 Probation Agents”; and 18–3801 through 18–3804, 18–3806, and 18–3807 to
26 be under the amended subtitle “Subtitle 38. Maryland Police Officers and
27 Probation Agents Scholarship Program”
28 Annotated Code of Maryland
29 (2022 Replacement Volume)

30 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

31 Article – State Personnel and Pensions
32 Section 32–101, 32–203(c), and 32–204
33 Annotated Code of Maryland
34 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

35 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

36 Article – State Personnel and Pensions
37 Section 32–205(a)
38 Annotated Code of Maryland
39 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

40 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
41 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

1 Article – Human Services

2 **2-303.**

3 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
4 INDICATED.

5 (2) “CAREER” MEANS AN OCCUPATION THAT PROVIDES
6 OPPORTUNITIES FOR UPWARD MOBILITY AND PROFESSIONAL PROGRESS.

7 (3) “ELIGIBLE COUNTY” MEANS:

8 (I) BALTIMORE CITY;

9 (II) BALTIMORE COUNTY; OR

10 (III) PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY.

11 (4) “ELIGIBLE LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM” MEANS:

12 (I) THE BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM;

13 (II) THE BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM; OR

14 (III) THE PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM.

15 ~~(5) “NEEDED POSITION” MEANS THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS IN THE~~
16 ~~DEPARTMENT IN AN ELIGIBLE COUNTY:~~

17 ~~(I) CASEWORKER;~~

18 ~~(II) CHILD SUPPORT SPECIALIST;~~

19 ~~(III) FAMILY INVESTMENT SPECIALIST;~~

20 ~~(IV) FAMILY SUPPORT WORKER; AND~~

21 ~~(V) FAMILY SVS CASEWORKER.~~

22 ~~(6)~~ (5) “PILOT PROGRAM” MEANS THE PILOT PROGRAM FOR
23 HUMAN SERVICES CAREERS ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SECTION.

1 ~~(7)~~ **(6)** “SERVICE OBLIGATION” MEANS TO WORK IN A ~~NEEDED~~
2 TARGETED POSITION FOR A MINIMUM OF 5 YEARS DURING THE 8-YEAR PERIOD
3 IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION.

4 **(7)** “TARGETED POSITIONS” MEANS THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS IN
5 THE DEPARTMENT IN AN ELIGIBLE COUNTY:

6 **(I)** CHILD SUPPORT SPECIALIST SERIES;

7 **(II)** FAMILY INVESTMENT SPECIALIST SERIES;

8 **(III)** FAMILY SUPPORT WORKER SERIES;

9 **(IV)** FAMILY SVS CASEWORKER SERIES; AND

10 **(V)** SOCIAL WORKER SERIES.

11 **(B)** **(1)** THERE IS A PILOT PROGRAM FOR HUMAN SERVICES CAREERS.

12 ~~(2)~~ ~~THE PILOT PROGRAM SHALL BEGIN ON JULY 1, 2023, AND END~~
13 ~~ON JUNE 30, 2028.~~

14 ~~(2)~~ ~~(3)~~ **(2)** THE PURPOSE OF THE PILOT PROGRAM IS TO:

15 **(I)** ENCOURAGE COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE
16 DEPARTMENT AND ELIGIBLE LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEMS TO ASSIST STUDENTS IN
17 ESTABLISHING CAREERS IN ~~NEEDED~~ TARGETED POSITIONS IN THE DEPARTMENT;
18 AND

19 **(II)** ASSIST CURRENT EMPLOYEES OF THE DEPARTMENT AND
20 EMPLOYEES IN TARGETED POSITIONS IN THE DEPARTMENT TO ESTABLISH CAREERS
21 IN TARGETED POSITIONS IN THE DEPARTMENT.

22 ~~(3)~~ ~~(4)~~ **(3)** THE DEPARTMENT SHALL WORK WITH ELIGIBLE LOCAL
23 SCHOOL SYSTEMS TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER § 7-132 OF THE EDUCATION
24 ARTICLE REGARDING THE PILOT PROGRAM.

25 **(C)** **(1)** IN HIRING FOR ~~NEEDED~~ TARGETED POSITIONS, THE
26 DEPARTMENT SHALL PRIORITIZE APPLICANTS WHO:

27 **(I)** GRADUATED FROM A HIGH SCHOOL IN AN ELIGIBLE LOCAL
28 SCHOOL SYSTEM; AND

1 (II) PARTICIPATED IN THE PILOT PROGRAM THROUGH THE
2 LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM OR AS AN EMPLOYEE OF THE DEPARTMENT.

3 (2) IF AN APPLICANT WHO MEETS THE CRITERIA DESCRIBED IN
4 PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION IS HIRED TO FILL A ~~NEEDED~~ TARGETED
5 POSITION IN THE DEPARTMENT, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL AWARD A ONE-TIME
6 STIPEND OF \$500 TO THE EMPLOYEE.

7 (D) (1) IF THE DEPARTMENT HIRES AN APPLICANT WHO GRADUATED
8 FROM A HIGH SCHOOL IN AN ELIGIBLE LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM TO FILL A ~~NEEDED~~
9 TARGETED POSITION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ASSIGN TO THE NEW EMPLOYEE A
10 MENTOR WHO WORKS IN THE DEPARTMENT.

11 (2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

12 (I) SOLICIT APPLICATIONS FROM EMPLOYEES TO SERVE AS
13 MENTORS TO NEW EMPLOYEES HIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION;

14 (II) SELECT QUALIFIED EMPLOYEES TO SERVE AS MENTORS
15 BASED ON CRITERIA DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT; AND

16 (III) NEGOTIATE MENTOR COMPENSATION WITH EACH
17 EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE.

18 ~~(2)~~ (3) A MENTOR ASSIGNED TO A NEW EMPLOYEE SHALL:

19 (I) SERVE AS AN EXPERT RESOURCE ON THE DEPARTMENT FOR
20 THE EMPLOYEE; AND

21 (II) BE COMPENSATED BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR SERVING AS A
22 MENTOR.

23 (4) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CREATE A SUPPORT SYSTEM NETWORK
24 FOR THE EMPLOYEES WHO WANT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PILOT PROGRAM.

25 (E) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE TO EMPLOYEES AND OTHER
26 INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS OUTSIDE THE DEPARTMENT INFORMATION REGARDING
27 THE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES THAT ARE AVAILABLE IN ~~NEEDED~~ TARGETED
28 POSITIONS IN THE DEPARTMENT.

29 (2) THE INFORMATION SHALL INCLUDE:

30 (I) THE QUALIFICATIONS NECESSARY FOR EACH ~~NEEDED~~
31 TARGETED POSITION;

1 (II) THE SALARY RANGE FOR EACH ~~NEEDED~~ TARGETED
2 POSITION;

3 (III) CONTACT INFORMATION FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO CAN HELP
4 EMPLOYEES OBTAIN THE QUALIFICATIONS NECESSARY FOR A ~~NEEDED~~ TARGETED
5 POSITION; AND

6 (IV) A DESCRIPTION OF AND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE
7 PILOT PROGRAM FOR HUMAN SERVICES CAREERS SCHOLARSHIP ESTABLISHED
8 UNDER § 18-3902 OF THE EDUCATION ARTICLE.

9 ~~(F) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL AUTHORIZE AN EMPLOYEE TO WORK IN A~~
10 ~~NEEDED POSITION BEFORE OBTAINING A NECESSARY CREDENTIAL OR DEGREE IF~~
11 ~~THE EMPLOYEE:~~

12 ~~(1) IS PURSUING THE CREDENTIAL OR DEGREE THAT IS NECESSARY~~
13 ~~TO WORK IN THE NEEDED POSITION; AND~~

14 ~~(2) PLEDGES TO CONTINUE WORKING IN THE NEEDED POSITION IN~~
15 ~~THE DEPARTMENT AFTER OBTAINING THE NECESSARY CREDENTIAL OR DEGREE.~~

16 (F) THE DEPARTMENT, IN COLLABORATION WITH A SCHOLARSHIP
17 RECIPIENT, SHALL DEVELOP A WORK SCHEDULE THAT ENABLES THE SCHOLARSHIP
18 RECIPIENT TO MAINTAIN A COURSE LOAD ~~IN-LINE~~ CONSISTENT WITH THE INTENT
19 OF THE PILOT PROGRAM.

20 (G) IF AN EMPLOYEE OBTAINS A NECESSARY CREDENTIAL OR DEGREE TO
21 WORK IN A ~~NEEDED~~ TARGETED POSITION IN THE DEPARTMENT, THE DEPARTMENT
22 SHALL AWARD A ONE-TIME STIPEND OF \$500 TO THE EMPLOYEE.

23 ~~(H) THIS SECTION SHALL REMAIN EFFECTIVE FOR A PERIOD OF 5 YEARS~~
24 ~~AND, AT THE END OF JUNE 30, 2028, THIS SECTION, WITH NO FURTHER ACTION~~
25 ~~REQUIRED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SHALL BE ABROGATED AND OF NO~~
26 ~~FURTHER FORCE AND EFFECT.~~

27 ~~(H)~~ (H) NOTHING IN THIS SECTION SHALL BE CONSTRUED TO ALTER THE
28 MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR ANY OF THE TARGETED POSITIONS INCLUDED IN
29 THIS SECTION.

30 (I) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2024, AND EACH DECEMBER 1
31 THEREAFTER, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL COLLABORATE WITH THE ELIGIBLE LOCAL
32 SCHOOL SYSTEMS TO SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN

1 ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, ON THE PILOT
2 PROGRAM, INCLUDING:

3 (1) ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED BY EACH ELIGIBLE LOCAL SCHOOL
4 SYSTEM TO ASSIST STUDENTS IN ESTABLISHING CAREERS IN TARGETED POSITIONS
5 IN THE DEPARTMENT;

6 (2) THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS PARTICIPATING IN THE PILOT
7 PROGRAM FROM EACH ELIGIBLE LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM AND IN THE DEPARTMENT;
8 AND

9 (3) THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS AWARDED A SCHOLARSHIP FROM
10 THE PILOT PROGRAM FOR HUMAN SERVICES CAREERS SCHOLARSHIP
11 ESTABLISHED UNDER § 18-3902 OF THE EDUCATION ARTICLE.

12 (J) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2028, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT A
13 REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE
14 STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PILOT PROGRAM
15 IN ACCOMPLISHING THE GOALS OF THE PILOT PROGRAM IN INCREASING
16 EMPLOYMENT IN TARGETED POSITIONS IN THE DEPARTMENT.

17 Article – Education

18 7-132.

19 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
20 INDICATED.

21 (2) “CAREER” MEANS AN OCCUPATION THAT PROVIDES
22 OPPORTUNITIES FOR UPWARD MOBILITY AND PROFESSIONAL PROGRESS.

23 (3) “ELIGIBLE COUNTY” MEANS:

24 (I) BALTIMORE CITY;

25 (II) BALTIMORE COUNTY; OR

26 (III) PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY.

27 (4) “ELIGIBLE LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM” MEANS:

28 (I) THE BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM;

29 (II) THE BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM; OR

1 (III) THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM.

2 ~~(5) "NEEDED POSITIONS" MEANS THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS IN THE~~
 3 ~~DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES IN AN ELIGIBLE COUNTY;~~

4 ~~(I) CASEWORKER;~~

5 ~~(II) CHILD SUPPORT SPECIALIST;~~

6 ~~(III) FAMILY INVESTMENT SPECIALIST;~~

7 ~~(IV) FAMILY SUPPORT WORKER; AND~~

8 ~~(V) FAMILY SVS CASEWORKER.~~

9 ~~(6)~~ (5) "PILOT PROGRAM" MEANS THE PILOT PROGRAM FOR
 10 HUMAN SERVICES CAREERS ESTABLISHED UNDER § 2-303 OF THE HUMAN
 11 SERVICES ARTICLE.

12 ~~(7)~~ (6) "SCHOLARSHIP" MEANS THE PILOT PROGRAM FOR HUMAN
 13 SERVICES CAREERS SCHOLARSHIP ESTABLISHED UNDER § 18-3902 OF THIS
 14 ARTICLE.

15 (7) "TARGETED POSITIONS" MEANS THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS IN
 16 THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES IN AN ELIGIBLE COUNTY:

17 (I) CHILD SUPPORT SPECIALIST SERIES;

18 (II) FAMILY INVESTMENT SPECIALIST SERIES;

19 (III) FAMILY SUPPORT WORKER SERIES;

20 (IV) FAMILY SVS CASEWORKER SERIES; AND

21 (V) SOCIAL WORKER SERIES.

22 (B) (1) UNDER THE PILOT PROGRAM, ELIGIBLE LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEMS
 23 AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES SHALL COLLABORATE TO ASSIST
 24 STUDENTS IN ESTABLISHING CAREERS IN ~~NEEDED~~ TARGETED POSITIONS IN THE
 25 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES.

1 **(2) EACH ELIGIBLE LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM SHALL ENTER INTO A**
2 **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**
3 **FOR THE PILOT PROGRAM THAT SHALL INCLUDE:**

4 **(I) CLEAR GOALS FOR THE PILOT PROGRAM AND ACTIONABLE**
5 **ITEMS TO MEET THOSE GOALS, INCLUDING IDENTIFYING SPECIFIC SCHOOLS OR**
6 **NUMBERS OF STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PILOT PROGRAM; AND**

7 **(II) A COMMITMENT TO PUBLICIZE THE PILOT PROGRAM,**
8 **INCLUDING THE AVAILABILITY OF:**

9 **1. STIPENDS FOR STUDENTS HIRED TO WORK IN**
10 **~~NEEDED~~ TARGETED POSITIONS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AFTER**
11 **GRADUATION FROM A HIGH SCHOOL IN AN ELIGIBLE LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM; AND**

12 **2. THE SCHOLARSHIP.**

13 **(C) EACH ELIGIBLE LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM SHALL:**

14 **(1) IDENTIFY STUDENTS WHO MAY BE INTERESTED IN WORKING FOR**
15 **THE STATE AFTER GRADUATING FROM HIGH SCHOOL;**

16 **(2) PUBLICIZE THE PILOT PROGRAM, INCLUDING EMPHASIZING THE**
17 **CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AND BENEFITS;**

18 **(3) WORK WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO**
19 **DEVELOP INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AT THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**
20 **AND PROVIDE COURSE CREDIT TO STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE INTERNSHIPS;**

21 **(4) SCHEDULE AT LEAST ONE CAREER DAY EACH SEMESTER FOR**
22 **REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO PRESENT TO**
23 **STUDENTS IN THE SCHOOL SYSTEM INFORMATION ABOUT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**
24 **IN ~~NEEDED~~ TARGETED POSITIONS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AND**
25 **THE NECESSARY QUALIFICATIONS;**

26 **(5) WORK WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO**
27 **IDENTIFY THE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS NECESSARY FOR ~~NEEDED~~ TARGETED**
28 **POSITIONS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AND INCORPORATE**
29 **TEACHING THE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS INTO THE CURRICULUM OF A REQUIRED**
30 **COURSE; AND**

31 **(6) INCLUDE THE DISCUSSION OF CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AT THE**
32 **DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AS PART OF THE INDIVIDUALIZED CAREER**

1 COUNSELING SERVICES IN THE CAREER COUNSELING PROGRAM FOR MIDDLE AND
2 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ESTABLISHED UNDER § 7-127 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

3 (D) THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES SHALL ASSIST AN ELIGIBLE
4 LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS
5 SECTION.

6 (E) IF A STUDENT IS HIRED TO WORK IN A ~~NEEDED~~ TARGETED POSITION IN
7 THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AFTER GRADUATION FROM A HIGH
8 SCHOOL IN AN ELIGIBLE LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM, THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
9 SERVICES SHALL AWARD A ONE-TIME STIPEND OF \$500 TO THE EMPLOYEE.

10 Subtitle 37. Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Police Officers AND
11 **PROBATION AGENTS.**

12 18-3701.

13 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

14 (b) “Eligible employment” means to work as [a police]:

15 (1) A POLICE officer in the State for at least 2 years; OR

16 (2) A PAROLE AND PROBATION AGENT, SUPERVISOR, OR REGIONAL
17 DIRECTOR IN THE STATE FOR AT LEAST 2 YEARS.

18 (c) “Higher education loan” means a loan that is obtained for tuition for
19 undergraduate study [leading to a degree in criminal law, criminology, or criminal justice].

20 (d) “Police officer” has the meaning stated in § 3-201 of the Public Safety Article.

21 (E) “PROBATION AGENT” MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL SERVING AS A PAROLE
22 AND PROBATION AGENT, SUPERVISOR, OR REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE
23 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES.

24 [(e)] (F) “Program” means the Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program
25 for Police Officers AND **PROBATION AGENTS.**

26 18-3702.

27 (a) There is a Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Police Officers
28 AND **PROBATION AGENTS** in the State.

29 (b) The Office shall distribute funds from the Program to assist in the repayment
30 of a higher education loan owed by a police officer OR **PROBATION AGENT** who:

- 1 (1) Receives a graduate, professional, or undergraduate degree from a
2 public college or university in the State;
- 3 (2) Obtains eligible employment; and
- 4 (3) Satisfies any other criteria established by the Office.

5 18-3704.

6 The Governor shall include [an annual] **IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN**
7 appropriation of at least [\$1,500,000 in the State budget] **\$5,000,000** for the Program.

8 Subtitle 38. Maryland Police Officers **AND PROBATION AGENTS** Scholarship Program.

9 18-3801.

- 10 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.
- 11 (b) “Eligible institution” means a public senior higher education institution in the
12 State.
- 13 (c) “Police officer” has the meaning stated in § 3-201 of the Public Safety Article.

14 **(D) “PROBATION AGENT” MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL SERVING AS A PAROLE**
15 **AND PROBATION AGENT, SUPERVISOR, OR REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE**
16 **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES.**

17 **[(d)] (E) “Service obligation” means to work as a police officer OR PROBATION**
18 **AGENT** in the State not less than 5 years during the 8-year period after graduation.

19 18-3802.

- 20 (a) There is a Maryland Police Officers **AND PROBATION AGENTS** Scholarship
21 Program.
- 22 (b) The purpose of the program is to provide tuition assistance for students **WHO**
23 **ARE:**

24 (1) Attending **AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION AND ENROLLED IN** a degree
25 program that would further the student’s [career in law enforcement at an eligible
26 institution with the] intent to [be] **BECOME** a police officer **OR PROBATION AGENT** after
27 graduation; or

1 (2) [Who are currently] **EMPLOYED AS A** police [officers attending]
2 **OFFICER OR PROBATION AGENT, ATTENDING AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION, AND**
3 **ENROLLED IN** a degree program that would further the police officer's **OR PROBATION**
4 **OFFICER'S** career [in law enforcement at an eligible institution].

5 (c) The Office shall publicize the availability of the Maryland Police Officers **AND**
6 **PROBATION AGENTS** Scholarship.

7 18-3803.

8 (a) [The] **EACH YEAR, THE** Office shall [annually] select eligible students and
9 offer a scholarship to each student selected to be used at an eligible institution of the
10 student's choice.

11 (b) A recipient of the Maryland Police Officers **AND PROBATION AGENTS**
12 Scholarship shall:

13 (1) Be a Maryland resident or have graduated from a Maryland high
14 school;

15 (2) Be accepted for admission or currently enrolled at an eligible institution
16 as a full-time or part-time undergraduate or graduate student pursuing a course of study
17 or program that would further the recipient's career [in law enforcement];

18 (3) Sign a letter of intent to perform the service obligation on completion of
19 the recipient's required studies; and

20 (4) Satisfy any additional criteria the Commission may establish.

21 (c) A current police officer **OR PROBATION AGENT** shall be eligible for a
22 Maryland Police Officers **AND PROBATION AGENTS** Scholarship if they meet the
23 eligibility criteria under subsection (b) of this section.

24 18-3804.

25 The recipient of a Maryland Police Officers **AND PROBATION AGENTS** Scholarship
26 shall repay the Commission the funds received as set forth in § 18-112 of this title if the
27 recipient does not:

28 (1) Satisfy the degree requirements of the eligible course of study or
29 program or fulfill other requirements as provided in this subtitle; or

30 (2) Perform the service obligation to work as a police officer **OR**
31 **PROBATION AGENT** for at least 5 years during the 8-year period after graduation.

32 18-3806.

1 The Governor shall [annually] include in the ANNUAL budget bill an appropriation
 2 of at least [\$8,500,000] **\$5,000,000** to the Commission to award scholarships under this
 3 subtitle, and the Commission shall use:

4 (1) **[\$6,000,000] \$2,500,000** for scholarships to students intending to
 5 become police officers **OR PROBATION AGENTS** after graduation; and

6 (2) **\$2,500,000** for scholarships for existing police officers **OR PROBATION**
 7 **AGENTS** to attend an eligible institution and remain a police officer **OR PROBATION**
 8 **AGENT** after graduation.

9 18-3807.

10 The Office shall:

11 (1) Publicize the availability of Maryland Police Officers **AND PROBATION**
 12 **AGENTS** Scholarships; and

13 (2) To the extent practicable, award scholarships under this subtitle in a
 14 manner that reflects ethnic, gender, racial, and geographic diversity.

15 **SUBTITLE 39. PILOT PROGRAM FOR HUMAN SERVICES CAREERS SCHOLARSHIP.**

16 **18-3901.**

17 (A) **IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
 18 **INDICATED.**

19 (B) **“ELIGIBLE COUNTY” MEANS:**

20 (1) **BALTIMORE CITY;**

21 (2) **BALTIMORE COUNTY; OR**

22 (3) **PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY.**

23 (C) **“ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION” MEANS A PUBLIC ~~SENIOR~~ HIGHER EDUCATION**
 24 **INSTITUTION IN THE STATE.**

25 ~~(D) “NEEDED POSITIONS” MEANS THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS IN THE~~
 26 ~~DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES IN AN ELIGIBLE COUNTY:~~

27 ~~(1) **CASEWORKER;**~~

- 1 ~~(2)~~ ~~CHILD SUPPORT SPECIALIST;~~
- 2 ~~(3)~~ ~~FAMILY INVESTMENT SPECIALIST;~~
- 3 ~~(4)~~ ~~FAMILY SUPPORT WORKER; AND~~
- 4 ~~(5)~~ ~~FAMILY SVS CASEWORKER.~~

5 ~~(E)~~ ~~“PILOT PROGRAM” MEANS THE PILOT PROGRAM FOR HUMAN~~
6 ~~SERVICES CAREERS ESTABLISHED UNDER § 2 303 OF THE HUMAN SERVICES~~
7 ~~ARTICLE.~~

8 ~~(F)~~ (D) “SCHOLARSHIP” MEANS THE PILOT PROGRAM FOR HUMAN
9 SERVICES CAREERS SCHOLARSHIP ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

10 ~~(G)~~ (E) (1) “SERVICE OBLIGATION” MEANS TO WORK IN A ~~NEEDED~~
11 TARGETED POSITION FOR A MINIMUM OF 5 YEARS DURING THE 8-YEAR PERIOD
12 IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION.

13 (2) “SERVICE OBLIGATION” INCLUDES WORK IN A TARGETED
14 POSITION WHILE A STUDENT IS ATTENDING AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.

15 (F) “TARGETED POSITIONS” MEANS THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS IN THE
16 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES IN AN ELIGIBLE COUNTY:

- 17 (1) CHILD SUPPORT SPECIALIST SERIES;
- 18 (2) FAMILY INVESTMENT SPECIALIST SERIES;
- 19 (3) FAMILY SUPPORT WORKER SERIES;
- 20 (4) FAMILY SVS CASEWORKER SERIES; AND
- 21 (5) SOCIAL WORKER SERIES.

22 18-3902.

23 (A) THERE IS A PILOT PROGRAM FOR HUMAN SERVICES CAREERS
24 SCHOLARSHIP.

25 (B) THE PURPOSE OF THE SCHOLARSHIP IS TO PROVIDE TUITION
26 ASSISTANCE TO STUDENTS WHO ARE ENROLLED IN A PROGRAM AT AN ELIGIBLE
27 INSTITUTION THAT WILL ENABLE THE STUDENT TO OBTAIN A CREDENTIAL OR

1 DEGREE THAT IS NECESSARY TO WORK IN OR FURTHER A CAREER IN A ~~NEEDED~~
 2 TARGETED POSITION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES.

3 (C) A SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT SHALL:

4 (1) BE A MARYLAND RESIDENT OR A GRADUATE OF A MARYLAND
 5 HIGH SCHOOL;

6 (2) BE ACCEPTED FOR ADMISSION OR CURRENTLY ENROLLED AT AN
 7 ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION IN A PROGRAM THAT WILL ENABLE THE RECIPIENT TO
 8 OBTAIN A CREDENTIAL OR DEGREE THAT IS NECESSARY TO WORK IN OR FURTHER A
 9 CAREER IN A ~~NEEDED~~ TARGETED POSITION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
 10 SERVICES;

11 (3) SIGN A LETTER OF INTENT TO PERFORM THE SERVICE
 12 OBLIGATION ON COMPLETION OF THE RECIPIENT'S REQUIRED STUDIES;

13 (4) MAINTAIN A CUMULATIVE GRADE POINT AVERAGE OF AT LEAST
 14 2.5 ON A 4.0 SCALE OR ITS EQUIVALENT; AND

15 (5) SATISFY ANY ADDITIONAL CRITERIA ESTABLISHED BY THE
 16 OFFICE OR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES.

17 (D) THE ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD SHALL BE 100% OF THE
 18 EQUIVALENT ANNUAL TUITION AND MANDATORY FEES AT THE ELIGIBLE
 19 INSTITUTION.

20 18-3903.

21 (A) (1) EACH YEAR THE OFFICE SHALL WORK WITH THE DEPARTMENT
 22 OF HUMAN SERVICES TO AWARD SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDENTS TO BE USED AT AN
 23 ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.

24 (2) THE OFFICE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES SHALL
 25 PUBLICIZE THE AVAILABILITY OF THE SCHOLARSHIP, INCLUDING PROVIDING
 26 INFORMATION ON THE SCHOLARSHIP TO EVERY EMPLOYEE IN A ~~NEEDED~~ TARGETED
 27 POSITION.

28 (B) ~~(1)~~ ~~(1)~~ THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES SHALL:

29 ~~(1)~~ ~~(1)~~ (I) IDENTIFY AND SELECT ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS; AND

30 ~~(1)~~ ~~(2)~~ (II) DETERMINE THE AMOUNT OF SCHOLARSHIP
 31 AWARDS.

1 **(2) THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES SHALL PRIORITIZE**
2 **SELECTING APPLICANTS FOR A SCHOLARSHIP WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE PILOT**
3 **PROGRAM FOR HUMAN SERVICES CAREERS ESTABLISHED UNDER § 2-303 OF THE**
4 **HUMAN SERVICES ARTICLE.**

5 ~~**(2) THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES SHALL PRIORITIZE**~~
6 ~~**SELECTING SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THE PILOT**~~
7 ~~**PROGRAM.**~~

8 **(C) THE OFFICE SHALL:**

9 **(1) AWARD SCHOLARSHIPS TO APPLICANTS SELECTED BY THE**
10 **DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES IN THE AMOUNTS DETERMINED BY THE**
11 **DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES; AND**

12 **(2) PROVIDE OVERSIGHT RELATED TO THE SERVICE OBLIGATION OF**
13 **THE SCHOLARSHIP.**

14 **(D) A SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT SHALL REPAY THE OFFICE THE FUNDS**
15 **RECEIVED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE AS SET FORTH IN § 18-112 OF THIS TITLE IF THE**
16 **RECIPIENT DOES NOT:**

17 **(1) SATISFY THE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS OF THE ELIGIBLE COURSE**
18 **OF STUDY OR PROGRAM OR FULFILL OTHER REQUIREMENTS AS PROVIDED IN THIS**
19 **SUBTITLE; OR**

20 **(2) PERFORM THE SERVICE OBLIGATION AFTER GRADUATION.**

21 **18-3904.**

22 **FUNDING FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP SHALL BE AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE**
23 **BUDGET.**

24 **Article – State Personnel and Pensions**

25 **32-101.**

26 **(a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.**

27 **(b) (1) “Eligible employee” means a member of the Employees’ Pension System**
28 **or the Employees’ Retirement System who is subject to Selection C (Combination Formula)**
29 **as provided in § 22-221 of this article, other than:**

1 (i) an employee of a participating governmental unit or a former
2 participating governmental unit that has withdrawn; or

3 (ii) a member of the Employees' Pension System who transferred
4 from the Employees' Retirement System after April 1, 1998.

5 (2) "Eligible employee" includes:

6 (i) a member of the Employees' Pension System who contributes to
7 a State supplemental plan authorized by an employing institution as defined in § 30-101
8 of this article; or

9 (ii) a member of the Employees' Pension System who is an employee
10 of the Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority.

11 (c) "Optional Defined Contribution System" means the system established under
12 § 32-201 of this title.

13 (d) "Participating employee" means an eligible employee who participates in the
14 Optional Defined Contribution System.

15 (e) (1) "State supplemental plan" means a plan qualified under the Internal
16 Revenue Code and:

17 (i) administered by the Supplemental Board; or

18 (ii) authorized for eligible employees by an employing institution as
19 defined in § 30-101 of this article.

20 (2) "State supplemental plan" includes:

21 (i) a salary reduction plan qualified under § 401(k) of the Internal
22 Revenue Code;

23 (ii) a tax sheltered annuity plan qualified under § 403(b) of the
24 Internal Revenue Code;

25 (iii) a deferred compensation plan qualified under § 457 of the
26 Internal Revenue Code; or

27 (iv) a plan qualified under § 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code.

28 (f) "Supplemental Board" means the State Board of Trustees of the Maryland
29 Teachers and State Employees Supplemental Retirement Plans established under §
30 35-201 of this article.

31 32-203.

1 (c) A participating employee's interest in the plans under the Optional Defined
2 Contribution System:

3 (1) shall immediately be 100% vested;

4 (2) shall be held in trust for the exclusive benefit of the participating
5 employee, except as otherwise required under § 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code for
6 investments held under a plan that qualifies under § 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code;
7 and

8 (3) may be distributed only at the times, in the manner, to the extent, and
9 to the individuals that allow the plans to maintain their tax qualified status under the
10 Internal Revenue Code.

11 32-204.

12 The participating employee contributions shall be made as payrolls are paid by
13 payroll deduction or by a reduction in salary in accordance with the Internal Revenue Code
14 and as provided by the applicable State supplemental plan.

15 32-205.

16 (a) **(1) [For] SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION, FOR** each
17 participating employee who makes contributions under § 32-204 of this subtitle, [to the
18 extent funds are provided in the State budget,] the State [may] **SHALL** contribute to the
19 applicable State supplemental plan employer contributions an amount equal to the lesser
20 of the participating employee's contributions or \$600 per fiscal year.

21 **(2) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION, IF A**
22 **PARTICIPATING EMPLOYEE WHO MAKES CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER § 32-204 OF THIS**
23 **SUBTITLE PROVIDES DOCUMENTATION TO THE STATE OF THE AMOUNT THE**
24 **EMPLOYEE PAID TOWARD THE EMPLOYEE'S HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENT LOAN**
25 **PAYMENTS DURING THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR, THE STATE SHALL CONTRIBUTE TO**
26 **THE APPLICABLE STATE SUPPLEMENTAL PLAN EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS AN**
27 **AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE LESSER OF THE PARTICIPATING EMPLOYEE'S HIGHER**
28 **EDUCATION STUDENT LOAN PAYMENTS OR \$600 PER CURRENT FISCAL YEAR.**

29 **(3) A PARTICIPATING EMPLOYEE MAY NOT RECEIVE A STATE**
30 **CONTRIBUTION UNDER PARAGRAPHS (1) AND (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION DURING THE**
31 **SAME FISCAL YEAR.**

32 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

33 (a) The Maryland Higher Education Commission shall work with the Department
34 of Human Services to award Scholarships from the Pilot Program for Human Services

1 Careers Scholarship established under § 18-3902 of the Education Article, as enacted by
2 Section 1 of this Act, in fiscal year 2024.

3 (b) The Maryland Higher Education Commission:

4 (1) may not delay making Scholarship awards under subsection (a) of this
5 section because of required updates to the Maryland College Aid Processing System; and

6 (2) shall consider the use of paper applications to make Scholarship awards
7 in fiscal year 2024.

8 SECTION ~~2~~ 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
9 July 1, 2023. ~~It shall remain effective for a period of 5 years and, at the end of June 30,~~
10 ~~2028, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated~~
11 ~~and of no further force and effect.~~

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.